

SPRINGFIELD, PA—On March 14, 2009, Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) marched in the 31st Annual Springfield St. Patrick's Day Parade.

"I am proud to march in this year's St. Patrick's Day parade in my hometown of Springfield with so many of my friends and constituents," said Congressman Sestak. "Today was a great day for Springfield and for all those who celebrate the rich culture of the Irish."

Also taking part in the parade were: American Legion Post 227, VFW Post #5705, Grand Marshall Richard L. Gildea, Donegal Society, Cloughaneely Band (County Donegal, Ireland), Springfield Fire Company, Morton Fire Company, Springfield Township Commissioners, Delaware County Sheriff's Office, Delaware County District Attorney, Delaware County Council, Pennsylvania House Representative William Adolph, Pennsylvania Senator Ted Erickson, Cara School of Irish Dance, St. Dorothy Boys and Girls Scout Troops, and LAOH Trinity Division (Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians).

The parade has continued to grow over the past 30 years and continues to be a day of celebration for the Springfield Community with family and friends joining together to enjoy a fine tradition.

The parade began at noon at West Springfield and Forest Road and proceeded down Saxer Avenue to Powell Road.

*Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.*

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